

FDADocket No. 99D-4488 and 99D-4489  
Dockets Management Branch (HFA - 305),  
5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Greetings, FDA Folks

507 '99 DEC -9 10:27

I don't understand much about your sprout concerns, but as a long, long time consumer of sprouts, I think you are probably over-reacting. Requiring that only certified organic seeds be sold for sprouting is reasonable..Other than that, hands off, please!!! Sterilizing seed is (excuse me) a dumb idea. Your inners and mine must have friendly bacteria or we will be sick for sure.

I am a 64-year old man. I don't have a doctor. Had a physical 10 years ago. About 20 years ago, I had a overnight problem with kidney stones because of dehydration. I have had colds three or four times. Other than, that I haven't been sick. I don't wear glasses.

Sprouts, primarily alfalfa, have been a main component of my diet for decades. Other than that, my eating habits are about typical American, except that I buy drinking water. My concern has always been for fresh sprouts. I have no idea whether or not I've <sup>been</sup> eating an organic product -- most likely not. The point is, I have in all these years never had a sprout related health problem. I consider sprouts to be the best food on the planet for city dwellers. Sprouts are the only thing we eat that is still growing. We need living food to keep our inners healthy. I am more than willing to take responsibility for my eating choices.

There is a much, much greater chance that a cigarette smoker is going to suffer from his habit, but yet we just label the product hazardous, and let the smoker choose. Why not just label sprouts and let me take responsibility for my health choices. I feel certain that I would be far less healthy in these late years if not for my steady intake of sprouts.

Thank you for letting me state my opinions.

Sincerely



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